

# PRIVATE-PUBLIC PARTNERSHIPS:

## MOVING FORWARD FOR SAFETY

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## RAILROADS ARE:

*MUCH more important to Louisiana than most of us think...  
I.e., RR's move tons of freight  
and allow our roads to last longer.  
If we didn't have our RR's, our  
roads would be even further  
damaged & congested.*

# REASONS TRAINS SO IMPORTANT TO LOUISIANA & THE NATION

- ◉ Louisiana is in the central area of USA – 6 Class I RR's

*(2 Western; UP & BNSF/ 2 Central; KCS & CNIC/ 2 Eastern; CSX & NS)*

- ◉ Three RR bridges crossing the Mississippi River in Louisiana
  - New Orleans
  - Baton Rouge
  - Delta, LA (across from Vicksburg, MS.)
- ◉ Business recognizes a need for competitive rail transportation.

# LOUISIANA'S RR HUBS

- ◉ ***New Orleans:***

- 6 Class I railroads
- Access Mississippi River Outlet to the Gulf

- ◉ ***Livonia:***

- Constructed in the '90's
- Changed RR movements and operations

- ◉ ***Shreveport:***

- NAFTA - increased train movements.

- ◉ ***Smaller RR Yards:***

- Increased business
- Increased rail traffic
- Need for rail storage

# LOUISIANA'S RAILROAD FACTS

- ◉ Six Class I railroads
- ◉ Freight train competing in time-sensitive markets.
- ◉ Ranks high in the number of:
  - ◉ Highway/rail crossing collisions
  - ◉ Collisions per railroad mile
- ◉ Vegetation
  - ◉ Potential limits to sight distance

# GOALS FOR HIGHWAY/RAIL CROSSING SAFETY

- ◉ Drivers know and ‘respect’ the tracks.
- ◉ Operation Lifesaver – EDUCATE!
- ◉ Consider increased use of **DO NOT STOP ON TRACKS** signs.
- ◉ Improved enforcement.
- ◉ Review tools to increase the conspicuity of the tracks.
  - **DO NOT STOP ON TRACKS** signs
  - Markings at crossings
  - Enforcement



# BASIC HIGHWAY/RAIL SAFETY

Look

Listen

Live!

# GOALS FOR HIGHWAY/RAIL SAFETY

- ⦿ 2/3 of public crossings to have active warning devices
- ⦿ Replace obsolete active warning devices as part of RR Safety process.
- ⦿ Work with RR to replace obsolete active warning devices:
  - Maintain reliability
  - Improved warning to public

# NEGOTIATED CORRIDORS

- ◉ ***BEST*** way

- DOTD, RR and the local government agree
- Allow the 'whole' corridor upgrades to be addressed
- Based on engineering and safety benefit.

- ◉ Local/Private entity brings proposal

- Brings to DOTD or RR
- Often involve multiple crossings
- Long term safety enhancements

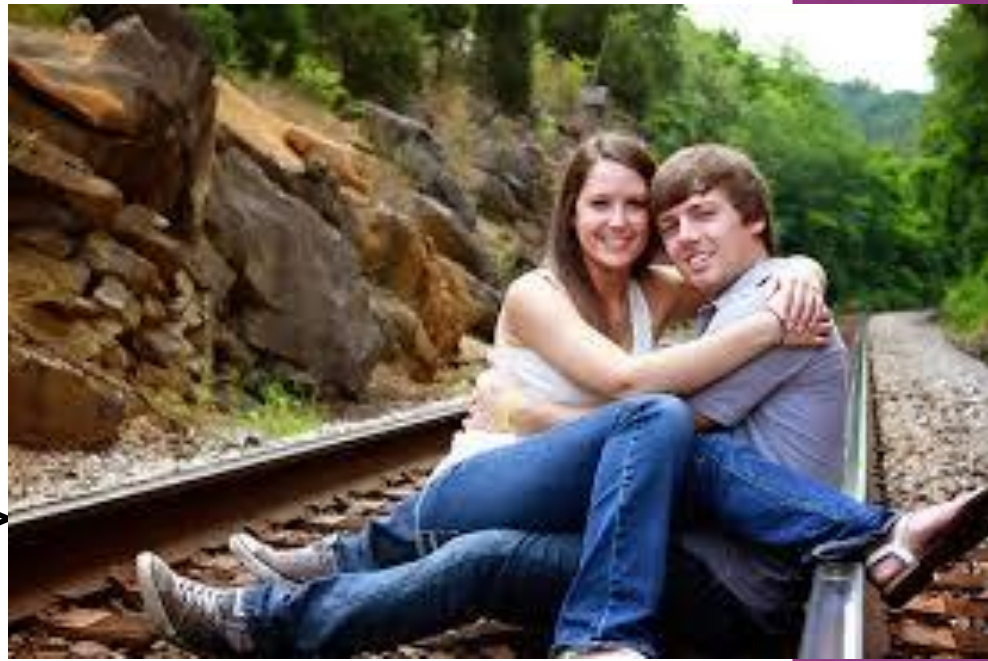
# RR SAFETY COOPERATION

- ◉ RR's significant part of economy.
- ◉ Common safety goals
- ◉ Rail safety education encouraged
- ◉ Rail safety enforcement encouraged, work with:
  - State
  - Local
- ◉ Obsolete active warning devices.
- ◉ Encourage RR safety with local governments

# TRESPASSING ISSUES. . .

One of DOTD increasing challenges is educating local governments/citizens of the need to stay away from the RR tracks. Cross at crossings, i.e., **do not trespass along the RR tracks or into RR yards.**

*This is NOT a good idea>>*



# TRESPASSING SOLUTIONS?. . .

## ⦿ Fencing

- Added by local governments/private entity
- Better control of access

## ⦿ Sidewalks

- Don't just end at the RR.

## ⦿ Local awareness

- Louisiana's local governments/citizens need to be aware of these issues

# PARTNERING . . .

- ◎ Work together

- LADOTD
- RR
- Local government
- Citizens

To meet RR safety needs

# THANK YOU!

Louisiana has a great need to continue our proactive highway/rail safety stance by continuing to partner with all RR's in Louisiana and our customers.

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